



# ADVANCED LEARNING & GIFTED EDUCATION

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

## Overview for Charter Schools

The Division of Advanced Learning and Gifted Education at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction supports personalized learning and advanced learning opportunities through advanced programming:

- Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and Cambridge International Education
- Academically and Intellectually Gifted Programs
- Career and College Promise and Cooperative Innovative High Schools
- Credit by Demonstrated Mastery

## Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and Cambridge International Education (CIE)

To provide rigor in schools, most public high schools in North Carolina offer AP courses, delivered either through face-to-face instruction or via NC Virtual Public Schools. Some public high schools also offer IB courses, including the IB Diploma Programme. A few NC public high schools offer courses through CIE.

Each of these programs offers college-level curricula and examinations to high school students. Program expectations include fulfillment of a coordinator role at the school to support teacher professional learning, communication, and compliance with procedures to support students. AP/IB/CIE exam fees are covered by NCDPI for all students enrolled in these courses in the schools, while schools are responsible for other fees, such as late fees.

## Academically and/or Intellectually Gifted (AIG) Programs

Academically and/or Intellectually Gifted Programs have been in place and have enjoyed strong support in NC for over 60 years. North Carolina has clear state legislation, Article 9B ([N.C.G.S. § 115C-150.5-.08](#)), which provides a statewide definition of giftedness and mandates our state to both identify and serve gifted learners. In addition, the State Board of Education (SBE) has adopted the [NC AIG Program Standards](#) (ACIG-000) to serve as guidelines for K-12 total school programming which includes academic, cognitive, social and emotional support.

Having an official AIG program is a choice, not a mandate, for Charter Schools. Currently, there are twenty Charters Schools who have developed Local AIG Plans, in accordance with the NC AIG Program Standards. As outlined in legislation (Article 9B), Local AIG Plans remain in effect for a three year period, and current plans will remain in place until 2022. If your charter school does not have an official AIG program in place, consider developing and submitting a Local AIG plan for the next three year cycle (2022-2025); these Local AIG plans will be due for Charter Schools in October 2022. Even if your school does not currently have an AIG Plan, we encourage you to develop intentional support for your gifted learners.

## Key considerations for having a Local AIG Plan...



# ADVANCED LEARNING & GIFTED EDUCATION

## North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

- Allows your school to identify and serve AIG students officially, so student information may be entered in PowerSchool. *Maintains identification and service.*
- Does not provide more funding; AIG funds are already included with Charter allotment.
- Allows for more support from the Division of Advanced Learning and Gifted Education.

*To have an official AIG program, Charter schools must follow state guidelines and write a Local AIG Plan based on legislation and SBE policy. This opportunity is provided every three years, in alignment with the statewide process for plan development.*

### Career and College Promise (CCP)

CCP provides structured dual enrollment opportunities for qualified high school students to dually enroll in higher education courses that provide pathways that lead to credentials, certificate, diploma, or degree as well as provide job skills – tuition-free.

### Three Types of CCP Opportunities

1. College Transfer Pathway
2. Career and Technical Education Pathway
3. Cooperative Innovative High Schools

### College Transfer Pathway

- Provides course credits towards Associate degrees in Arts or Science that are seamlessly transferable to all UNC System institutions and participating private institutions.
- Open to all eligible NC high school students in Grades 11-12; open to eligible AIG 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students; certain CTE pathways open to Grades 9-10.
- Eligibility: Unweighted GPA 2.8 and demonstrate college readiness on an approved college benchmark assessment.

### Career and Technical Education Pathway

- Provides course work towards an industry-recognized credential, certificate or diploma in a technical career. Continues to build on foundational high school courses.
- Open to all eligible NC high school students in Grades 11-12
- Criteria: Unweighted GPA 2.8 or recommendation of HS principal and meet the prerequisites for the career pathway.

### Cooperative Innovative High Schools (CIHS)

CIHS, including early colleges and other innovative models, are small public high schools, usually located on the campus of a university or community college, that expand students' opportunities for education success through high quality instructional programming.

CIHS target students who are at risk of dropping out of high school, first-generation college students, and/or students who would benefit from accelerated learning opportunities. Currently, North Carolina has 130 Cooperative Innovative High Schools.



# ADVANCED LEARNING & GIFTED EDUCATION

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

## Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM)

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) is the process by which a student may earn credit for any high school course by demonstrating a deep understanding of the content; without course enrollment or seat time.

SBE Policy: [CCRE-001](#)

### How does a student earn CDM?

- Multi-phase assessment
  - Phase 1: Student examination demonstrating foundational knowledge, using an EOC, CTE or other LEA exam (NCFE may be used)
  - Phase 2: Student artifact demonstrating application of knowledge, such as Capstone Projects in CTE courses, interview, or project.
- For more information and *Implementation Guide* visit the [CDM website](#).

### Division of Advanced Learning and Gifted Education

- Homepage: [NC DPI: Advanced Learning and Gifted Education](#).
- AP/IB/CIE: [NC DPI: Advanced Coursework](#).
- AIG: [NC DPI: Academically or Intellectually Gifted](#)
- CCP: [NC DPI: Career and College Promise](#).
- CDM: [NC DPI: Credit by Demonstrated Mastery](#)

### NC State Board of Education

- Homepage: <https://stateboard.ncpublicschools.gov/>.
- Policy Manual: <https://stateboard.ncpublicschools.gov/policy-manual>.

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